

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of the Office Action mailed July 10, 2007. Claims 1-36 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 10-13, 15, and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0034278 to Hundscheidt et al. Claims 25, 27, and 34-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hundscheidt. Claims 2, 14, and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hundscheidt in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,082,114 to Engwer. Claims 4, 16, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hundscheidt in view of Engwer and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0016151 to Romans. Claims 8, 9, 20, 21, 32, and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hundscheidt in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,754,211 to Brown.

Claims 5, 17, and 29 have been cancelled. The Examiner has indicated that claims 5-7, 17-19, and 29-31 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to be the equivalent of claim 5, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 6 has been amended to depend directly from claim 1, which now includes all the limitations of claim 5 from which claim 6 originally depended. Claims 2-4 and 6-12 are directly or indirectly dependent from claim 1 and thus contain each and every element of claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that as claim 1 should now be allowable, claims 2-4 and 6-12, which depend therefrom, are also allowable.

Independent claim 13 has been amended to be the equivalent of claim 17, including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 18 has been amended to depend directly from claim 13, as claim 13 now incorporates all the limitations of claim 17, from which claim 18 originally depended. Claims 14-16 and 18-24 are directly or indirectly dependent from claim 13, and thus include each and every element of claim 13. As claim 13 is now in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 14-16 and 18-24, which depend therefrom, are also allowable over the art of record.

Independent claim 25 has been amended to be the equivalent of claim 29. As claim 25 now includes the allowable subject matter of claim 29, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 25 should also be allowable. Claim 30 has been amended to depend directly from claim 25,

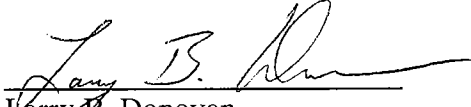
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which now includes all the limitations of claim 29 from which claim 30 originally depended. As claim 25 is now allowable over the art of record, Applicants submit that claims 26-28 and 30-36, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 25, including each and every limitation of claim 25, are also in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 72255/33234.

Respectfully submitted,

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